

Abstract

An apparatus and method for retrieving data related to a data cartridge contained in a media storage system. A transponder (e.g., an RFID transponder) is attached to the data cartridge for storing the related data and a reader attached to a cartridge access device of the media storage system is positionable adjacent the data cartridge for reading the related data from the transponder. The reader is attached to a cartridge plunge mechanism so that the reader is positioned near the transponder regardless of the mechanical tolerances of the media storage system. Once positioned adjacent one another, the transponder is activated and queried by the reader. The transponder transmits a data signal containing the related data to the reader and a controller operatively associated with the reader processes the data signal.